

# KEN FORRESTER WINES

(STELLENBOSCH, WESTERN CAPE)

[www.kenforresterwines.com](http://www.kenforresterwines.com)



In 1993 the Forrester family came to the rescue, restoring the 17th century homestead, replanting the vines and developing wines of quality.

In 1994 the first wines were produced under the Ken Forrester label, and soon the award-winning wines were at the forefront of the Chenin Blanc revival. The grapes are sourced from vineyards - some of them more than 30 years old - in the cool Helderberg region of Stellenbosch.

The farming is in the hands of a small highly dedicated team. Ken does all the sales and marketing, travelling around the world promoting South Africa and their great wines, happy to pour any South African wine far from home and carry the flag. It's a tough job, socialising and meeting great people in the relaxed environment of food and wine but someone has to do it!

We practice sustainable, organic viticulture, we make our own compost, we grow winter cover crops between the dormant vines, we use ducks to control snails and insects and we manage yields according to the potential of the soils and the vines, we do not believe that stress is a good practice in the vineyards or in life!

---

## Merlot Reserve Pat's Garden 2019

CSPC# 790308

750mlx12

13.5% alc./vol.

<b>Chemical Analysis</b>	Acidity: 5.80 g/l	pH: 3.52	Residual Sugar: 3.0 g/l
<b>Grape Variety</b>	68% Merlot, 15% Cabernet Franc, 14% Cabernet Sauvignon, 3% Petit Verdot		
<b>Winemaker</b>	Ken Forrester		
<b>Info</b>	The Reserve Range. Here we are solely responsible for the cultivation of the vines and selection of the fruit, mostly from our family property in Stellenbosch, just 4 miles from the cool Atlantic and in the sheltered lee of the majestic Helderberg mountain.		
<b>Vineyards</b>	Region: Stellenbosch, Elim and Darling. Situated on the slopes of the Helderberg Mountain, in the heart of South Africa's most famous wine region Stellenbosch, our vineyards are commonly referred to as the Home of Chenin Blanc and other premium award-winning wines. The farm is 40 hectares and roughly 36 hectares of that is under vine. The following grape varieties are on the farm; Chenin Blanc, Sauvignon Blanc, Cabernet Sauvignon, Shiraz, Merlot, Grenache, Mourvedre, Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot. Region: Stellenbosch. Soil: Duplex with some clay – Kroonstad. Aspect: south, south-west		
<b>Harvest</b>	Hand harvested in individual parcels and selected for quality to get the ripest possible, balanced Merlot from our very finest soils, influenced by the cool S/E wind during the ripening season. Yield: 8 tons per hectare		
<b>Vinification</b>	The wine was matured in selected French oak barrels for 12 months.		
<b>Tasting Notes</b>	Pat's Garden Merlot has always been a blend of predominantly Merlot with the addition of about 8%-12% Cabernet Franc. This 'blend' conveniently fell within the legal framework for a wine labelled as a single varietal wine ... <i>'all wine may be blended up to a maximum of 15%'</i> . We thought, why is the magic number 15%? So, we set about doing some exploration using 4 of the traditional Bordeaux grapes: Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Petit Verdot and Cabernet Sauvignon...The result? We present the new Pat's Garden Reserve! A <i>Bordeaux-inspired</i> blend, offering the best of the 5 noble varieties of Bordeaux in one delicious bottle.		
<b>Serve with</b>	Serve with meat dishes, grills, and roast lamb.		
<b>Scores/Awards</b>	<b>4 stars (89 points)</b> - Malu Lambert, John Platter's Guide to South African Wines, 2023		
<b>Reviews</b>	<i>"Merlot, seasoned with the cabs &amp; dash inky petit verdot in gorgeous 2019, taking a cue from its name with rose petal aroma, cherry kernel &amp; marzipan flavours. Silken tannins from year in older barrel. Stellenbosch WO for these unless noted."</i> - ML, <a href="http://wineonaplatter.com">wineonaplatter.com</a>		

